

Community Events and Celebrations

The VFSN hosts important Vietnamese cultural celebrations and supports members to participate in wider community participation events. Key celebrations include Vietnamese Lunar New Year, Moon Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival, Carer's Day Celebration, Mother's and Father's Day Celebrations.

When: Various

Child minding: Parent supervision of their children is required

Language: Vietnamese and English

Information and Referral

The VFSN provides information exchange and advice to Vietnamese families who have a child with a disability living in Melbourne and across Australia.

Language: Vietnamese and English

VFSN Membership

The VFSN welcomes new members of Vietnamese background who live in the Western metro region of Melbourne and in Victoria, have a family member with a disability. Annual membership fees are \$20 per year (Note that families experiencing financial hardship may apply to the Committee of Management to have this fee adjusted).

Membership forms can be found on our website www.vfsn.org.au or by contacting the VFSN Committee of Management.

Volunteer with VFSN

We welcome enquiries from individuals who are interested in volunteering with the VFSN. All VFSN volunteers receive orientation and are required to complete a Police Check and a Working with Children Check before participating in our programs.

Privacy and Confidentiality

We are committed to confidentiality and take care to protect any information that you share with us about your family. Any personal information you provide is not shared with any other person or service without your written consent.

Contact Us

Please visit our website www.vfsn.org.au to find out more about the VFSN. Alternatively, you can contact the Committee of Management via email on vn.specialneeds@gmail.com or phone 044 841 7513.

Vietnamese Families with Special Needs Inc.



*Connecting, empowering and
supporting Vietnamese families
living with disability.*

Who are Vietnamese Families with Special Needs Inc?

VFSN is a parent led, volunteer based Incorporated Association providing peer support, parent information and community inclusion opportunities to the Vietnamese Community living with disability in Western Melbourne.

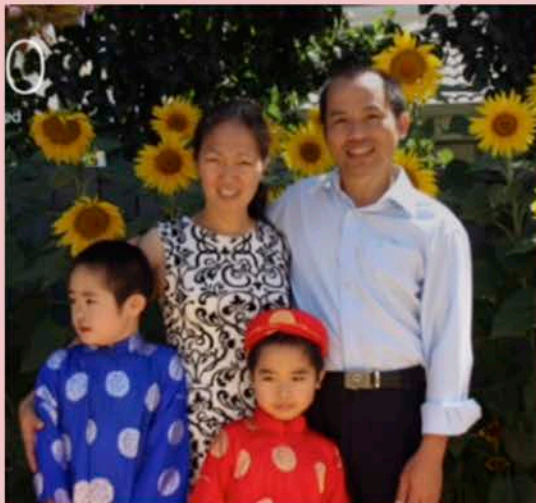
Established in 2003 to enhance the emotional and social wellbeing of Vietnamese families, the VFSN today provides support to families in Melbourne's west and to the wider community. Our programs build skills, connection, cultural understanding and wellbeing.

The VFSN is led by a Committee of Management all of whom are parents of a child with a disability. We operate according to the Model Rules for an Incorporated Association and Victoria Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Our Vision and Mission

Our vision is to live in a community where Vietnamese families who have a child or family member with a disability live with respect and dignity. We believe everyone has a right to reach their optimum wellbeing and capacity; are understood and accepted without judgement and stigma.

Our mission is to help families we support to feel connected, hopeful, empowered and resourced. Our programs aim is to help children, parents and carers reach their potential, participate fully in the community and live better, easier and happier lives



Who We Support

- Vietnamese parents, carers and families of children with a disability residing in the western metro region of Melbourne.
- Vietnamese families living with disability across Victoria (disability awareness and information).
- Community groups and service providers seeking to assist Vietnamese families living with disability (cultural awareness and advice).

Our Programs

• Weekly Parent Support Group

We offer a weekly Parent Peer Support Group that aims to enhance the emotional and social wellbeing of Vietnamese parents of children with a disability, reduce isolation and strengthen parenting capacity. Families receive guidance, advice and education about caring for a child with a disability and information on how to access the disability service system. The Group also provides regular carer well-being sessions and facilitated opportunities for parents to experience and learn how to manage stress, eat well, exercise and relax.

When: Thursdays during school term, 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Mackillop Centre 118 Commercial Rd Footscray

Child minding: Yes

Language: Vietnamese and English

• Youth Peer Support Groups

We offer peer support opportunities for Vietnamese children and young adults with disabilities in collaboration with Extended Families Australia. Opportunities include skill development and activity groups for youth with Autism. All groups are led by experienced facilitators.

When: Various

Cost: Covered by grants where available or Individual NDIS Plans

Language: Vietnamese and English.

• Annual Family Camp

We hold an annual three-day weekend camp for families. The Camp provides parents and children with an opportunity to meet socially in a supported environment for fun, relaxation, social and emotional peer support.

When: January each year

Child minding: Parent supervision of their children is required at camp

Cost: Covered by Individual NDIS plans

Language: Vietnamese and English